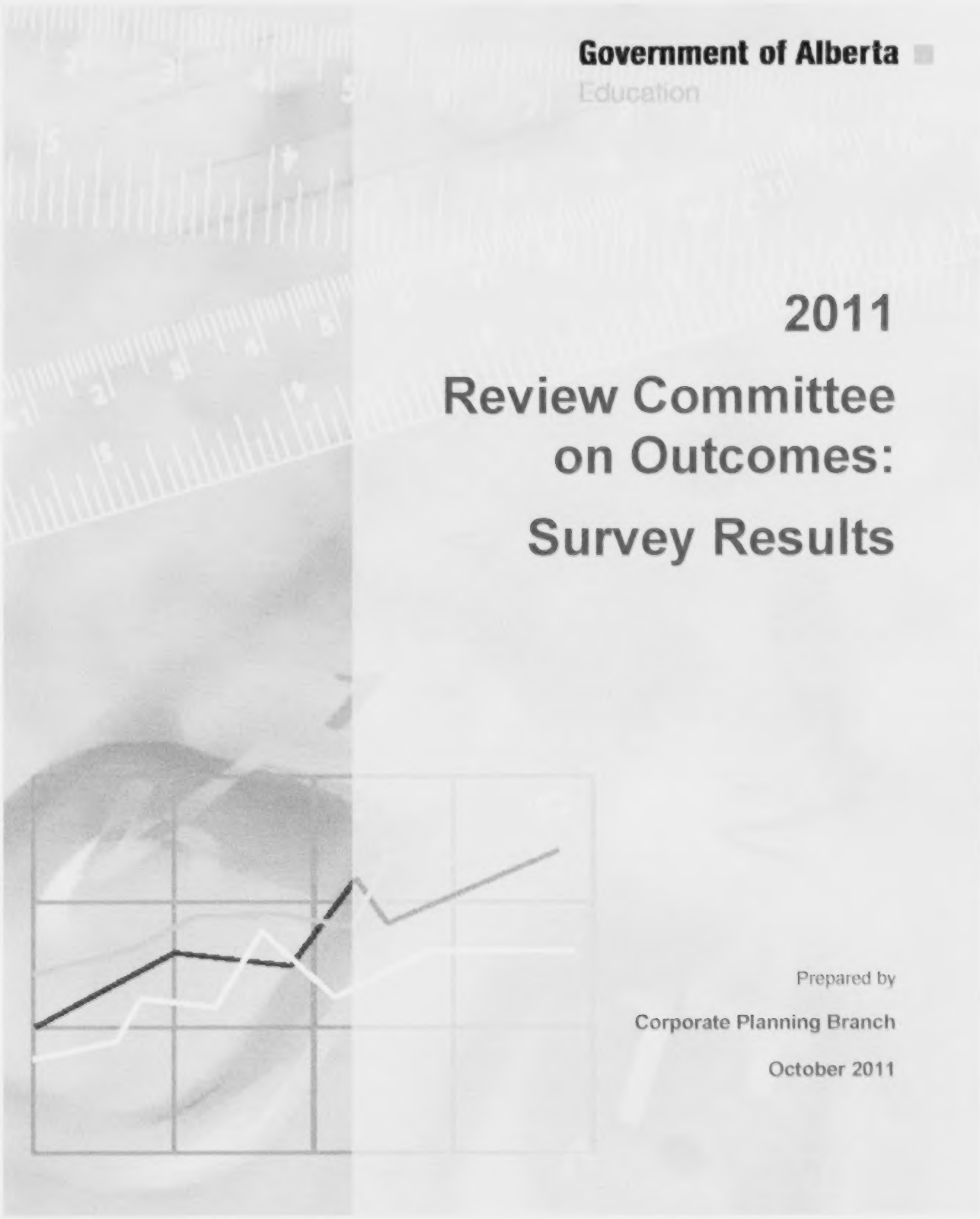


Government of Alberta

Education

2011

Review Committee on Outcomes:

Survey Results

Prepared by

Corporate Planning Branch

October 2011

For more information contact:

Business Planning and Performance Reporting Unit
Corporate Planning Branch,
Strategic Services Division,
Alberta Education
9th Floor, Commerce Place
10155 - 102 Street
Edmonton, AB T5J 4L5

Telephone: (780) 427-3748
Email: performance.reporting.education@gov.ab.ca

To be connected toll-free call 310-0000

Copyright © 2011, the Crown in Right of the Province of Alberta as represented by the Minister of Education.

Permission is hereby given by the copyright owner for any person to reproduce this document for educational purposes and on a non-profit basis.

ALBERTA EDUCATION CATALOGUING IN PUBLICATION DATA

Alberta. Alberta Education. Corporate Planning Branch.
Review committee on outcomes: survey results 2011/prepared by Corporate Planning Branch.

ISBN 978-0-7785-9698-1 (Print)
ISBN 978-0-7785-9699-8 (Online)

1. Education – Alberta – Evaluation. 2. Educational surveys – Alberta.
3. Educational accountability – Alberta. 4. Education and state – Alberta.
I. Title.

LB2823.A333 2011 370.11

Contents

Executive Summary 1

Student Learning 3

Opportunity to Learn 10

Involvement/Engagement 16

Teaching and Profession of Teaching 22

Leadership and Governance 27

Facilities 34

Appendices 37

Executive Summary

This report presents an analysis of the survey results for measures based on the work of the Review Committee on Outcomes. The survey questions were part of the 2011 Satisfaction with Education in Alberta Surveys of the public, teachers, school board trustees, principals, senior high school students, and parents of kindergarten to Grade 12 students. Highlights of the results and opportunities for improvement are given below.

Highlights

- The vast majority (96%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public agreed that teachers have specialized knowledge and skills, apply knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment and that they provide a very valuable service to society. Respondents' agreement ranged from 92% for parents to 100% for principals.
- The vast majority (94%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that students are safe, are treated fairly and are learning the importance of caring and respect for others in school. Respondents' agreement ranged from 88% for parents to 98% for principals.
- The vast majority (94%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards. Respondents' agreement ranged from 85% for parents to 100% for principals.
- A vast majority (91%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied that the student learning resources (such as text books, audio and video materials) that are available at schools are current, appropriate, and meet student needs. Respondents' agreement ranged from 87% for school board trustees to 94% for students and principals.
- A vast majority (90%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that students model the characteristics of active citizenship. Respondents' agreement ranged from 80% for students to 97% for principals.
- A majority (89%) of students, parents, and teachers agreed that there is mutual respect and trust between teachers and students. Respondents' agreement ranged from 85% for students to 97% for teachers.
- A majority (87%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public were satisfied with the overall quality of education in Alberta. Respondents' satisfaction level varied from 75% for the public to 96% for principals.
- A majority (87%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely. Respondents' satisfaction level varied from 75% for parents to 94% for principals.
- A majority (87%) of teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that the

professional development and in-servicing received by teachers from the school authority have been focused, systematic and contributed significantly to their ongoing professional growth. Respondents' agreement ranged from 78% for teachers to 93% for principals.

- A majority (86%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public were satisfied that students are receiving a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Respondents' satisfaction level varied from 76% for the public to 93% for principals.
- A majority (86%) of students, parents, teachers, and the public were satisfied that school facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff and the community. Respondents' satisfaction level varied from 77% for teachers to 93% for students.
- A majority (85%) of students, parents of Grades 3-12 students, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that school and school(s) in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same in the past three years. Respondents' agreement ranged from 73% for parents of Grades 3-12 students to 94% for school board trustees.

Opportunities for Improvement

- About half (46%) of parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the province. Respondents' level of satisfaction ranged from 38% for teachers to 61% for principals.
- About six in ten (62%) parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public were satisfied that the leadership at the school, school board and provincial levels effectively supports and facilitates teaching and learning. Among the respondents, students and parents had the highest (72%) and the public had the lowest (46%) level of satisfaction.
- About two-thirds (63%) of parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public were satisfied that the learning system is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public. Respondents' level of satisfaction ranged from 50% for the public to 77% for principals.
- About seven in ten (68%) parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school board of their jurisdiction. Respondents' level of satisfaction ranged from 47% for the public to 92% for principals.
- Seven in ten (70%) teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied that school facilities, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff. Respondents' level of satisfaction ranged from 65% for school board trustees to 79% for principals.
- Seven in ten (70%) students, parents, teachers, and the public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school. Respondents' level of satisfaction ranged from 53% for the public to 83% for teachers.

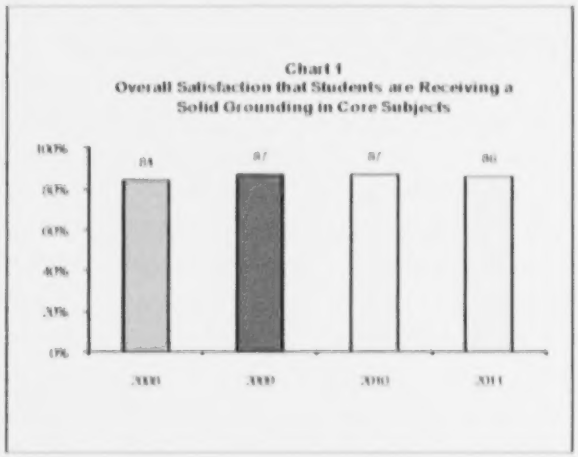
Student Learning

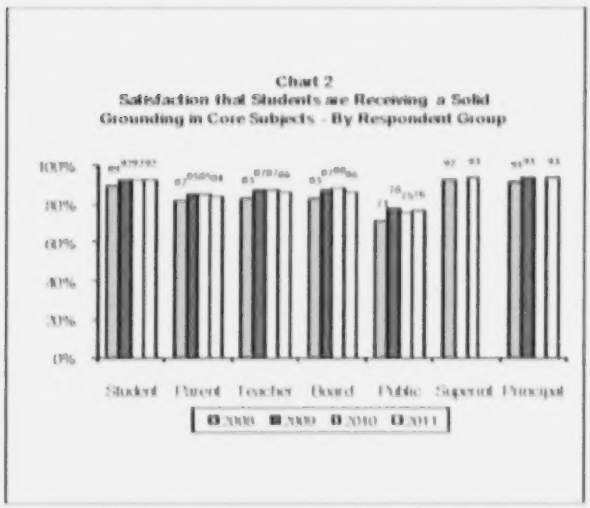
RCO OUTCOME A.1a:

Students receive a broad program of studies including: a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.

Measure A.1a.1: *Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student, board, superintendent, and principal satisfaction that students are receiving a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies.*

Overall Results: Overall, 86% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals and the public were satisfied that students are receiving a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Respondents' overall satisfaction that students are receiving a solid grounding in these core subjects is consistent with previous results. Please note that superintendent survey was not administered in 2009 and 2011 *(see Chart 1)*.





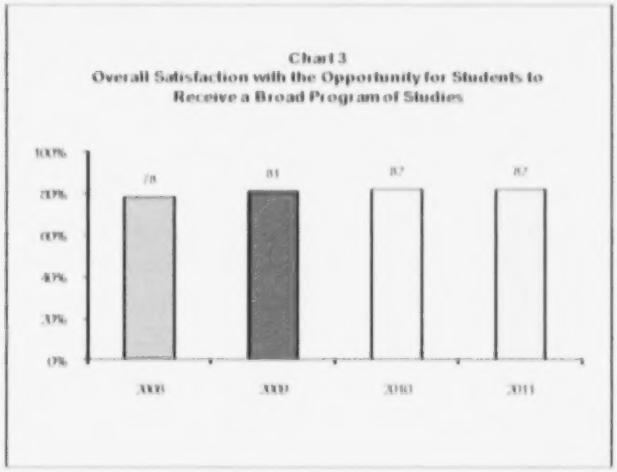
In general, a higher proportion of principals (93%), students (92%), teachers (86%), school board trustees (86%), parents (84%), and a relatively lower proportion of public (76%) were satisfied that students are receiving a solid grounding in language arts, mathematics, science and social studies. Respondents' satisfaction levels on this measure are similar to previous results *(see Chart 2)*.

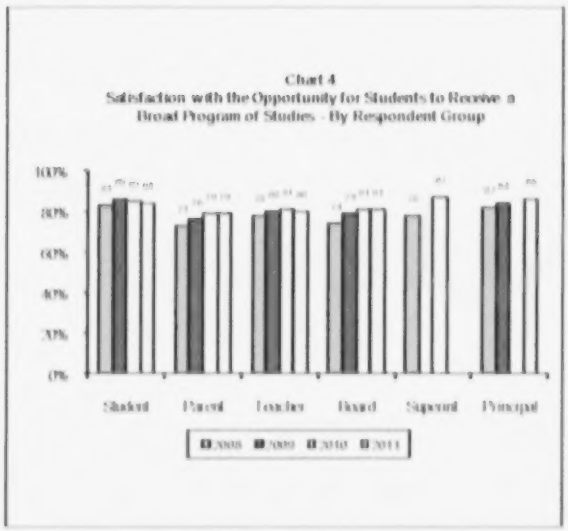
RCO OUTCOME A.1b:

Students receive a broad program of studies including: instruction in the fine arts, career, technology, health, physical education and where appropriate, religious education.

Measure A.1b.1: *Percentage of teacher, parent, student, board, superintendent, and principal satisfaction with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, health, physical education and, where appropriate, religious education.*

Overall Results: Overall, 82% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, health, physical education and, where appropriate, religious education. Respondents' overall satisfaction level on this measure is similar to previous results (*see Chart 3*).





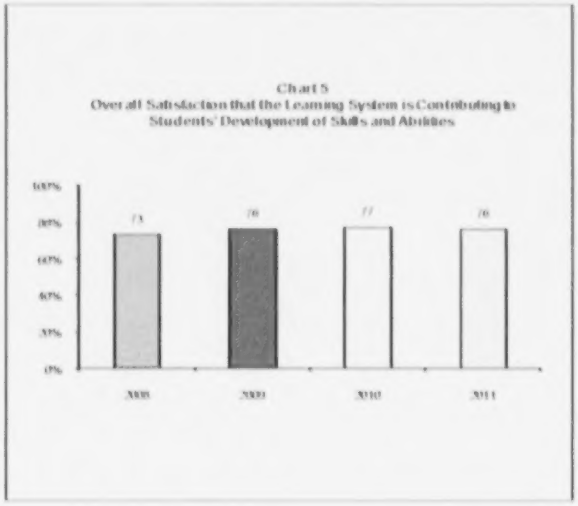
Looking at each respondent group individually, 86% of principals, 84% of students, 81% of school board trustees, 80% of teachers , and 79% of parents were satisfied with the availability of a variety of subjects and the opportunity for students to learn about music, drama, art, computers, health, another language, career education, and physical education in schools. Note that since 2010 in the parent survey, questions on drama, another language, and career education were asked only to parents of students in Grades 7-12 (*see Chart 4*).

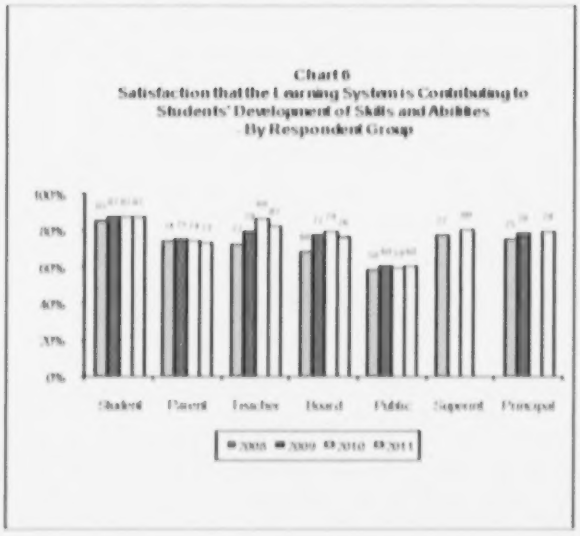
RCO OUTCOME A.4:

The learning system contributes to the student's intellectual, social, physical, emotional, and spiritual development.

Measure A.4.2: *Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student, board, superintendent, and principal satisfaction that the learning system is contributing to the student's intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual development.*

Overall Results: Overall, 76% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals and the public were satisfied with the contribution of the learning system to the development of students' intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual skills. The overall level of satisfaction is consistent with previous results *(see Chart 5)*.

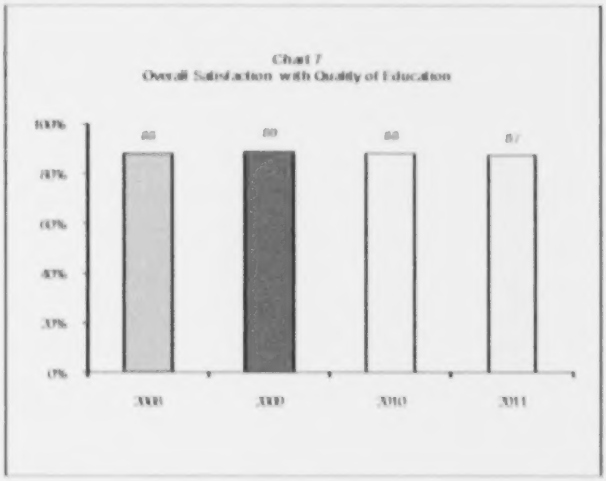


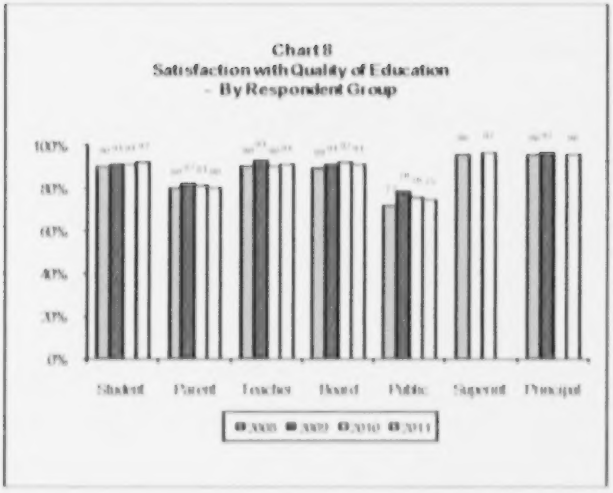


Over 70% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied that the learning system is contributing to the student's intellectual, social, physical, emotional and spiritual development. However, a relatively smaller proportion of the public (60%) was satisfied on this measure. Teachers' satisfaction level on this measure has increased by 10% from 72% in 2008 to 82% in 2011. Similarly, school board trustees' satisfaction level on this measure has increased by 8% from 68% in 2008 to 76% in 2011 *(see Chart 6)*.

Measure A4.3: *Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student, board, superintendent and principal satisfaction with the overall quality of education in Alberta.*

Overall Results: Overall, a large majority (87%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public reported that they were satisfied with the overall quality of education in Alberta. Respondents' overall satisfaction level on this measure is similar to previous results (*see Chart 7*).





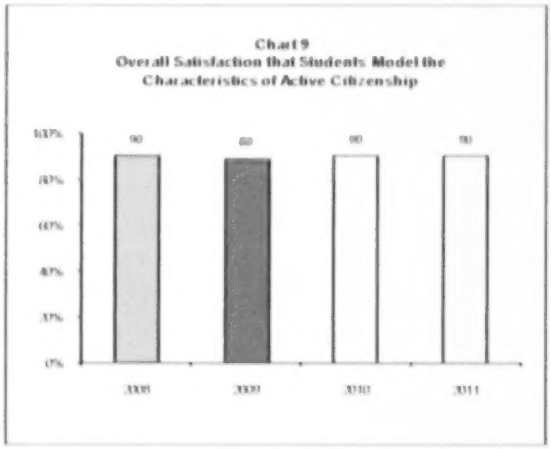
Broken down by respondent group, 96% of principals, 92% of students, 91% of teachers, 91% of school board trustees, and 80% of parents were satisfied with the overall quality of education in the province. However, a relatively smaller proportion of the public (75%) reported that they are satisfied with the overall quality of education in the province (*see Chart 8*).

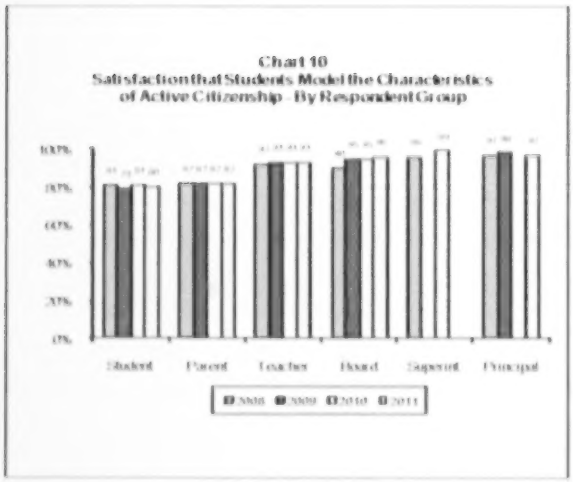
RCO OUTCOME A.6:

Students demonstrate active citizenship.

Measure A.6.1: *Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student, board, superintendent and principal satisfaction that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.*

Overall Results: Overall, 90% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that students model the characteristics of active citizenship. Respondents' overall agreement that students model the characteristics of active citizenship is similar to previous results (*see Chart 9*).





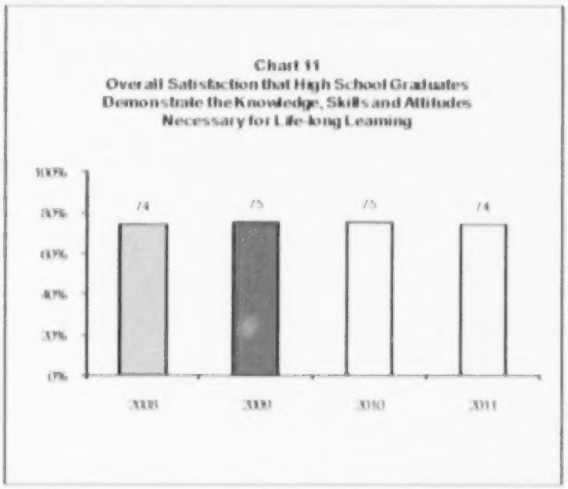
In general, a high proportion of principals (97%), school board trustees (96%), teachers (93%), parents (82%), and students (80%) agreed that students model the characteristics of active citizenship. Respondents' agreement levels are similar to previous results. Please note that the public is not included in this survey measure (*see Chart 10*).

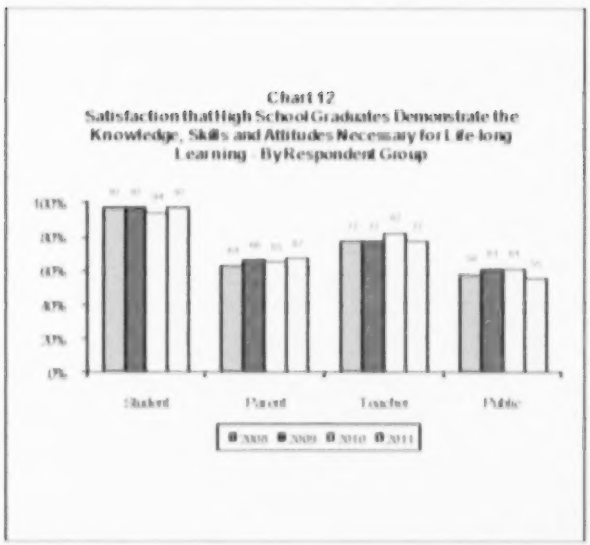
RCO OUTCOME A.7:

Students demonstrate the skills and attitudes for life-long learning.

Measure A.7.1: *Percentage of teacher, parent, student, public, employer and post-secondary instructor satisfaction that high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for life-long learning.*

Overall Results: Overall, 74% of students, parents, teachers and the public agreed that high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for life-long learning. Respondents' agreement level on this measure is consistent with previous results *(see Chart 11)*.





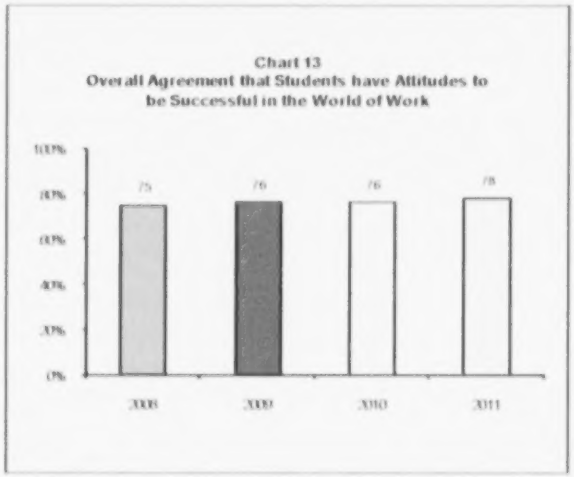
In general, a high proportion of students (97%) agreed that high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and attitudes necessary for life-long learning. However, relatively fewer teachers (77%), parents (67%) and the public (55%) agreed that high school graduates demonstrate the knowledge, skills and attitudes necessary for life-long learning. Respondents' agreement levels are consistent with previous results. Note that since 2010 in the parent survey, only parents of students in Grades 7-12 were asked the questions in this measure *(see Chart 12)*.

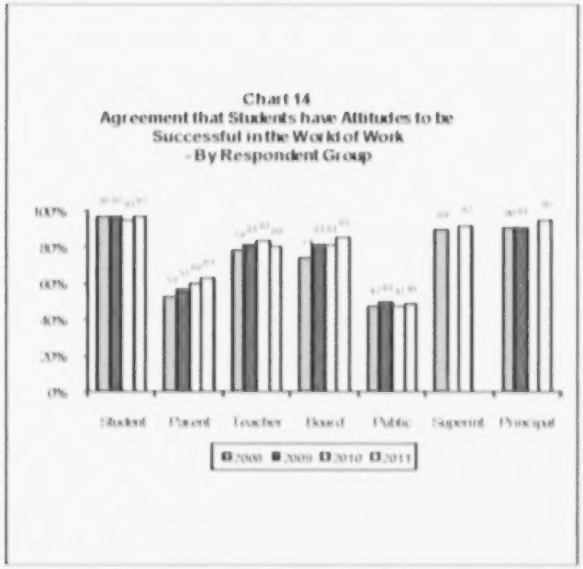
RCO OUTCOME A.8:

Students demonstrate preparedness for work.

Measure A.8.2: *Percentage of teacher, parent, student, public, board, superintendent and principal agreement that students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work.*

Overall Results: For this measure, students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public were asked to rate their agreement on whether attitudes and behaviours are taught to students to be successful at work. Overall, 78% of them agreed that high school students have attitudes that make them successful in the world of work. Respondents' agreement level on this measure is consistent with previous results *(see Chart 13)*.





In general, a high proportion of students (97%), principals (95%), school board trustees (85%), and teachers (80%) agreed that students have attitudes to be successful at work. However, relatively fewer parents (63%) and the public (48%) agreed with this statement. Parents' agreement has increased by 10% and school board trustees' agreement has increased by 11% on this measure compared to 2008 results. Note that since 2010 in the parent survey, only parents of students in Grades 7-12 were asked the questions in this measure *(see Chart 14)*.

Opportunity to Learn

RCO OUTCOME B.1:

Each student comes to school ready to learn.

Measure B.1: *Percentage of teacher, parent, student, board, superintendent and principal agreement that students arrive at school ready to learn.*

Overall Results: Overall, 84% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that students arrive at school ready to learn. Respondents' agreement level on this measure is consistent with previous results *(see Chart 15)*.

Chart 15
Overall Agreement that Students Arrive at School Ready to Learn

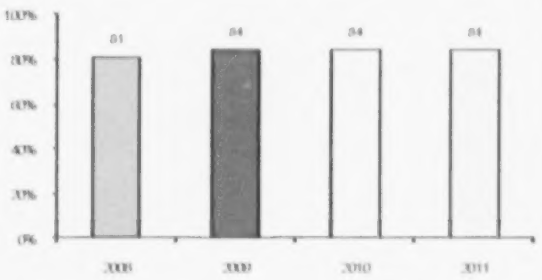
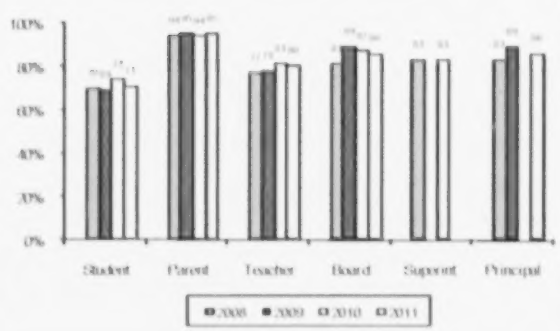


Chart 16
Agreement that Students Arrive at School Ready to Learn - By Respondent Group



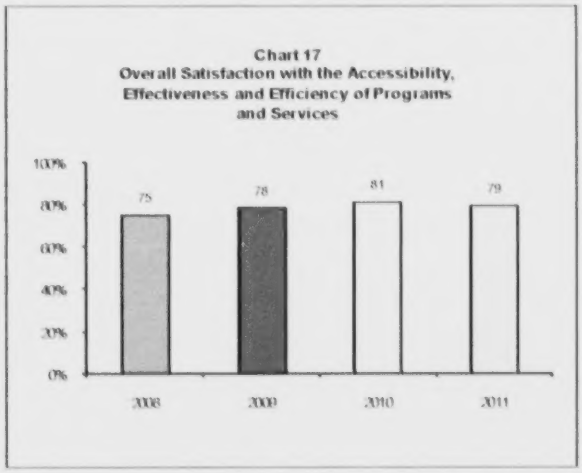
A high proportion of parents (95%), school board trustees (86%), principals (86%), and teachers (80%) agreed that students arrive at school ready to learn. However, relatively fewer students (71%) agreed with this statement. Respondents' agreement levels are consistent with previous results *(see Chart 16)*.

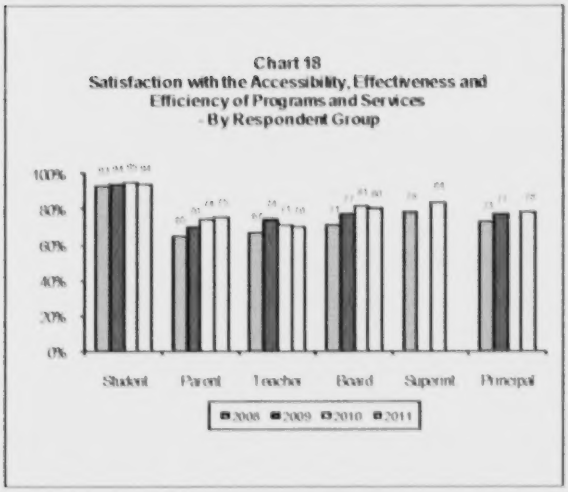
RCO OUTCOME B.2:

Students are provided assistance and support to ensure equitable opportunity to learn.

Measure B.2.1: *Percentage of teacher, parent, student, board, superintendent and principal satisfaction with the accessibility, effectiveness and efficiency of programs and services for students in their community.*

Overall Results: Overall, 79% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied with the accessibility, effectiveness and efficiency of programs and services for students in their community. Respondents' agreement on this measure has been stable over the past four years *(see Chart 17)*.





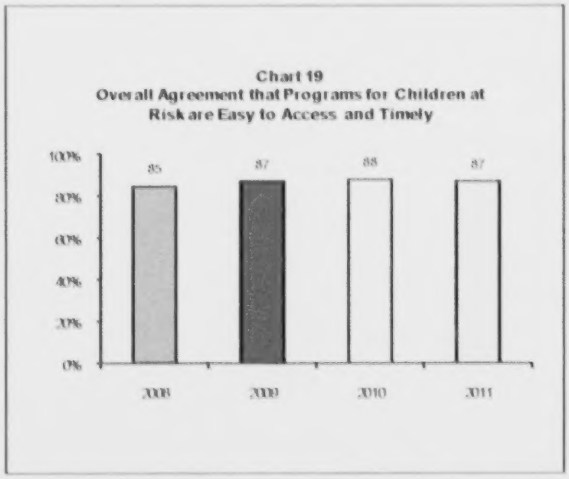
Over 90% of students were satisfied that they are provided with the efficient and effective programs and services for learning at school. However, relatively fewer school board trustees (80%), principals (78%), parents (75%) and teachers (70%) were satisfied that students are provided with the efficient and effective programs and services they need to learn at school. Parents' satisfaction has increased by 10% compared to the 2008 result and school board trustees' satisfaction has increased by 9% compared to the 2008 result *(see Chart 18)*.

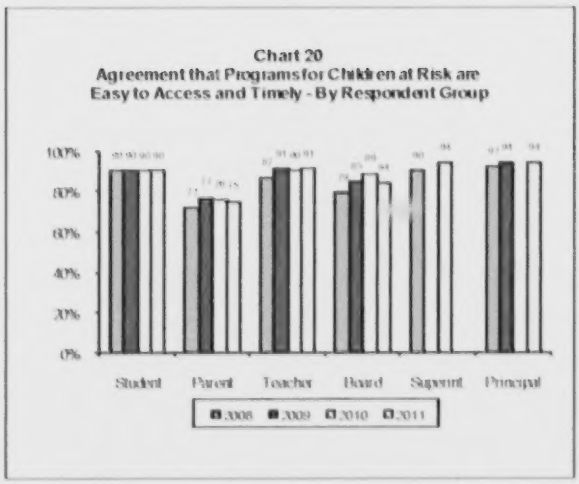
RCO OUTCOME B.3:

Children at risk have their needs addressed through effective coordinated programs and supports.

Measure B.3.1: *The percentage of teacher, parent, student, board, superintendent and principal agreement that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely.*

Overall Results: Overall, 87% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely. Overall agreement on programs for children at risk is similar to that observed in previous results *(see Chart 19)*.





A high proportion of principals (94%), teachers (91%), students (90%), and school board trustees (84%) agreed that programs for children at risk are easy to access and timely. However, relatively fewer parents (75%) agreed with this statement. Respondents' agreement levels are similar to previous results *(see Chart 20)*.

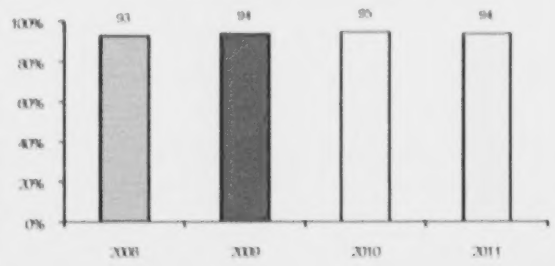
RCO OUTCOME B.4:

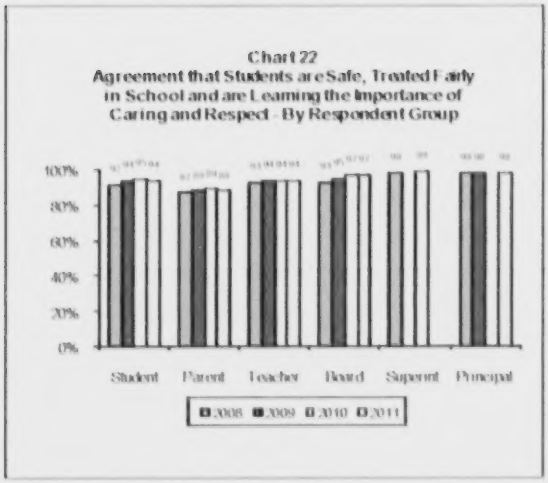
A safe and caring school environment facilitates student learning in an atmosphere of trust, respect and inclusiveness.

Measure B.4: *Percentage of teacher, parent, student, board, superintendent and principal agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.*

Overall Results: Overall, 94% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school. Respondents' overall agreement level is consistent with previous results *(see Chart 21).*

Chart 21
Overall Agreement that Students are Safe, Treated Fairly in School and are Learning the Importance of Caring and Respect





Almost all of principals (98%) and school board trustees (97%) and a high proportion of students (94%), teachers (94%) and parents (88%) agreed that students are safe, treated fairly at school and are learning the importance of caring and respect for others. Respondents' agreement levels on this measure are similar to previous results *(see Chart 22).*

RCO OUTCOME B.5:

Appropriately-sized groups and settings allow teachers to meet the diverse, individual learning needs of students.

Measure B.5: *Percentage of teacher, parent, student, board, superintendent and principal satisfaction that the individual student is receiving the individual attention they require appropriate to their learning needs in their school.*

Overall Results: Overall, 84% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied that each student receives the individual attention they require at school. The overall satisfaction level on this measure is consistent with previous results (*see Chart 23*).

Chart 23
Overall Satisfaction that Students Receive the Individual Attention They Require

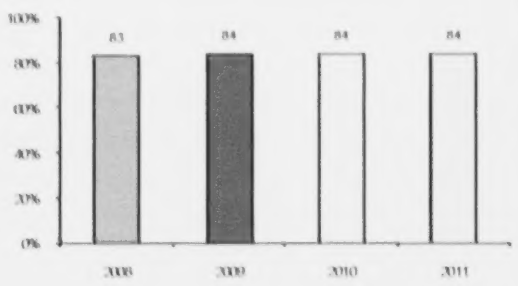
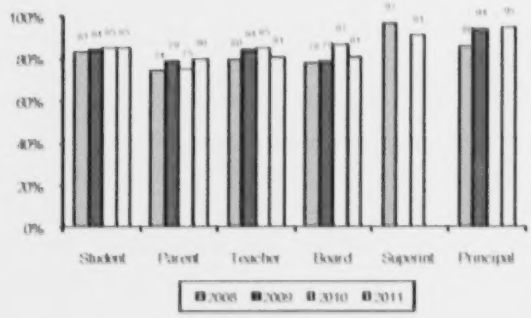


Chart 24
Satisfaction that Students Receive the Individual Attention They Require - By Respondent Group



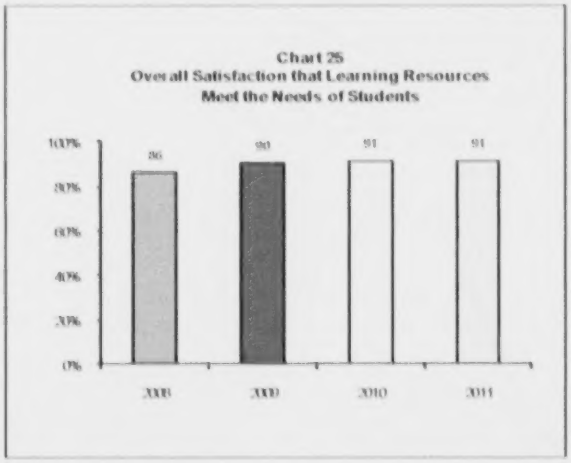
In general, a high proportion of principals (95%), students (85%), teachers (81%), school board trustees (81%), and parents (80%) were satisfied that students receive the individual attention they need at school. Principals' agreement level on this measure has increased by 9% compared to the 2008 result (*see Chart 24*).

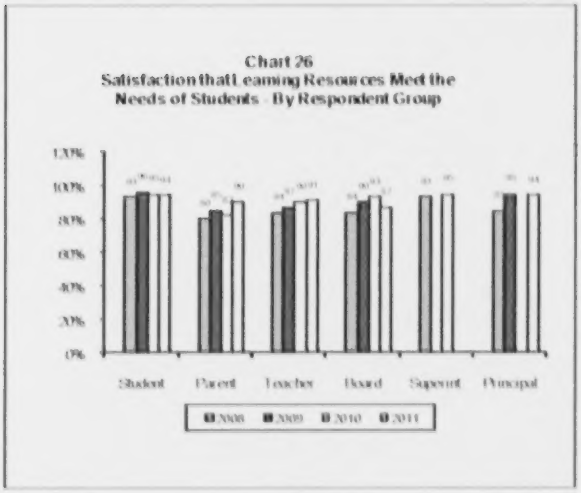
RCO OUTCOME B.6:

Students utilize appropriate learning resources.

Measure B.6: *Percentage of teacher, parent, student, board, superintendent and principal satisfaction that the student learning resources are a) available, b) current, appropriate and support curriculum outcomes and c) meet the learning needs of students.*

Overall Results: Overall, 91% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied that student learning resources (such as text books, audio and video materials) available at schools are current, appropriate, and meet student needs. Respondents' overall satisfaction level on this measure is similar to previous results (*see Chart 25*).





A high proportion of students (94%), principals (94%), teachers (91%), parents (90%), and school board trustees (87%) were satisfied that student learning resources available at schools are current, appropriate, and meet student needs. Principals' satisfaction level has increased by 9% compared to the 2008 result (*see Chart 26*).

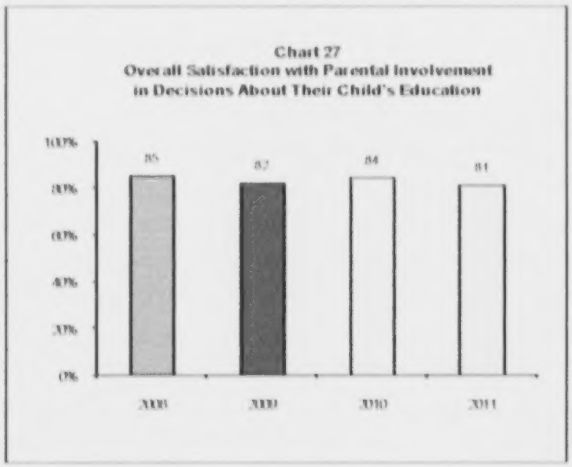
Involvement/Engagement

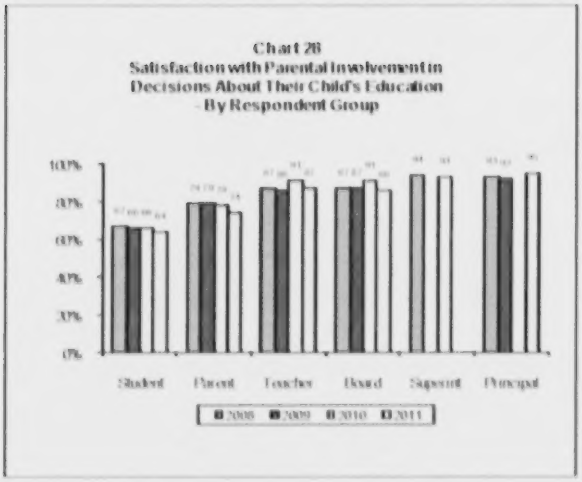
RCO OUTCOME C.1:

Parents are involved meaningfully in their children's education.

Measure C.1: *Percentage of teacher, parent, student, board, superintendent and principal satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.*

Overall Results: Overall, 81% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education. Respondents' overall satisfaction level is similar to previous results *(see Chart 27)*.





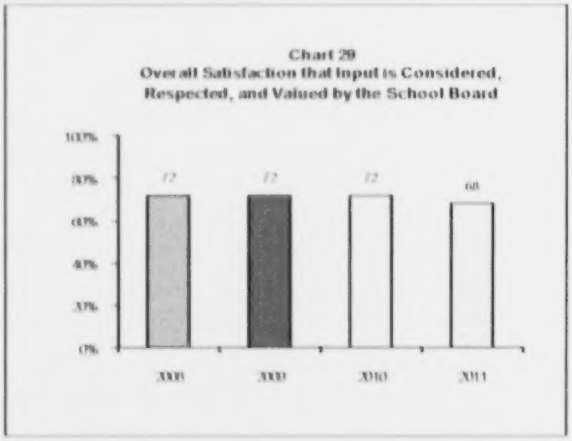
Over 85% of principals, teachers and school board trustees were satisfied with the parental involvement in decisions about their child's education. Relatively fewer parents (74%) and students (64%) were satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education. Respondents' satisfaction levels are similar to previous results *(see Chart 28)*.

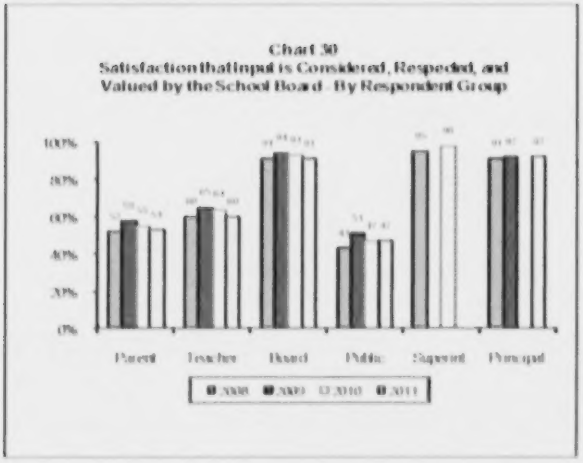
RCO OUTCOME C.2:

The voices of students, parents, staff and the community are heard, respected, and valued.

Measure C.2.1: *The percentage of parent, public, student, staff (teacher), board, superintendent and principal satisfaction that their input is considered, respected and valued by the board.*

Overall Results: Overall, 68% of parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school board. Respondents' overall satisfaction level is consistent with previous results (*see Chart 29*).





Respondents' satisfaction that their input into the education of students is considered, respected, and valued by the school board varied widely. Over 90% of principals and school board trustees were satisfied that the school board considered parent and guardian input into the education of students. However, relatively fewer teachers (60%), parents (53%) and the public (47%) were satisfied that the school board considered their input. Respondents' satisfaction levels are similar to previous results (*see Chart 30*).

Measure C.2.2: *The percentage of parent, public, student, staff (teacher), board, superintendent and principal satisfaction that their input is considered, respected and valued by the province*

Overall Results: Overall, 46% of parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals and the public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the province. Respondents' overall satisfaction level has decreased by 9% compared to the 2008 result *(see Chart 31).*

Chart 31
Overall Satisfaction that Input is Considered, Respected, and Valued by the Province

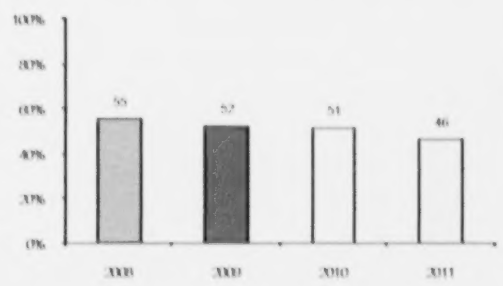
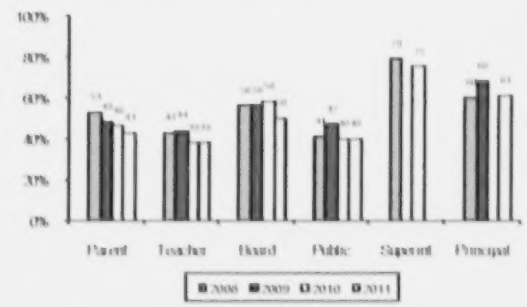


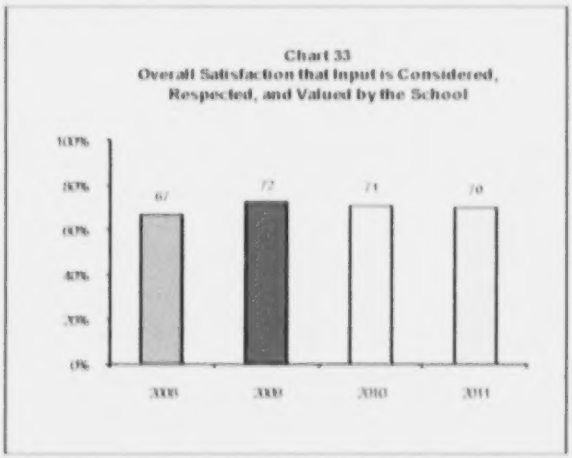
Chart 32
Satisfaction that Input is Considered, Respected, and Valued by the Province - By Respondent Group

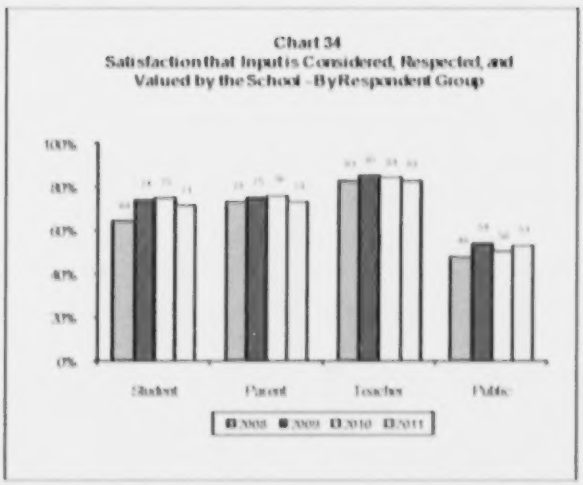


Overall, 61% of principals were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the province. However, relatively fewer school board trustees (50%), parents (43%), the public (40%), and teachers (38%) were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the province. Parents' satisfaction level has decreased by 10% compared to the 2008 result *(see Chart 32).*

Measure C.2.3: *The percentage of parent, public, student, staff (teacher) and board satisfaction that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school.*

Overall Results: Overall, 70% of students, parents, teachers, and the public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school. Respondents' satisfaction level on this measure is consistent with previous results (*see Chart 33*).





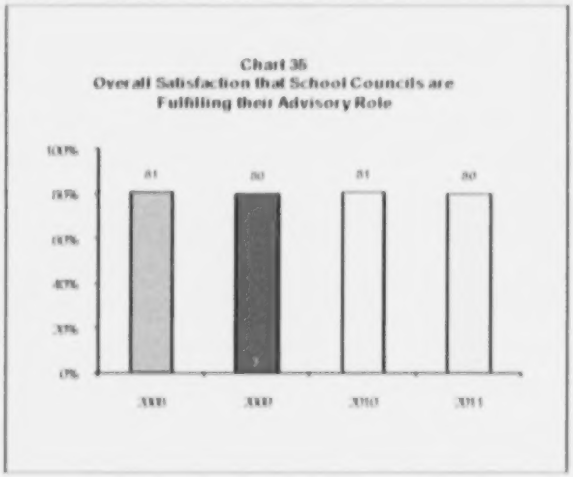
Respondents' satisfaction varied widely in this measure. Overall, 83% of teachers were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school. However, only about three-quarters of parents (73%) and students (71%) and about half (53%) of the public were satisfied that their input is considered, respected and valued by the school. Respondents' satisfaction levels are similar to previous results (*see Chart 34*).

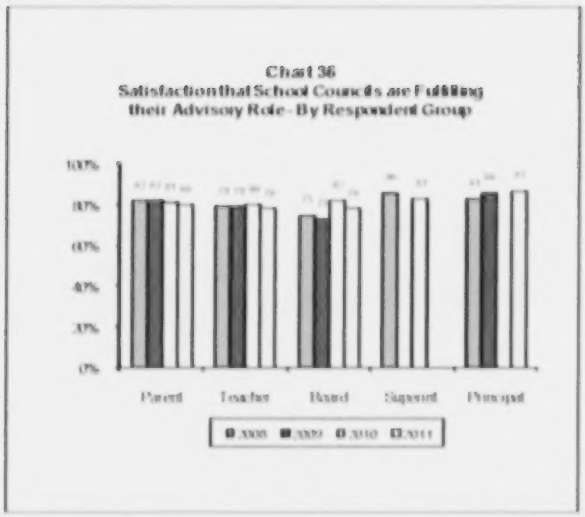
RCO OUTCOME C.4:

School councils fulfill their advisory role.

Measure C.4.1: *Percentage of teacher, parent (at large), board, superintendent, principal and council agreement that school councils are fulfilling their advisory role.*

Overall Results: Overall, 80% of parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that school councils are fulfilling their advisory role. Respondents' satisfaction level is consistent with previous results *(see Chart 35)*.

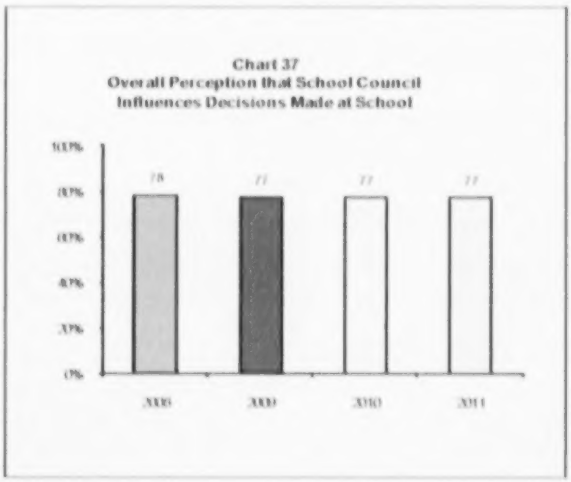




Overall, a high proportion of principals (87%), parents (80%), teachers (78%), and school board trustees (78%) agreed that school councils are fulfilling their advisory role. Respondents' satisfaction levels are consistent with previous results *(see Chart 36)*.

Measure CA.2: *Parent perception that school councils influence decisions made at their child's school.*

Overall Results: Overall, 77% of parents agreed that school council influences decisions made at their child's school. Parent satisfaction level is consistent with previous results (*see Chart 37*). Only parents were respondents on this survey measure.



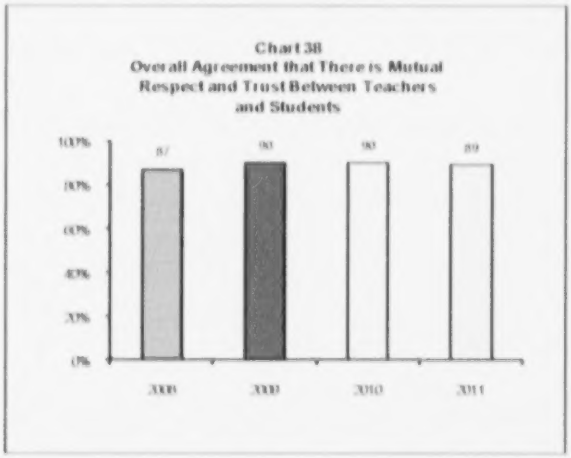
Teaching and Profession of Teaching

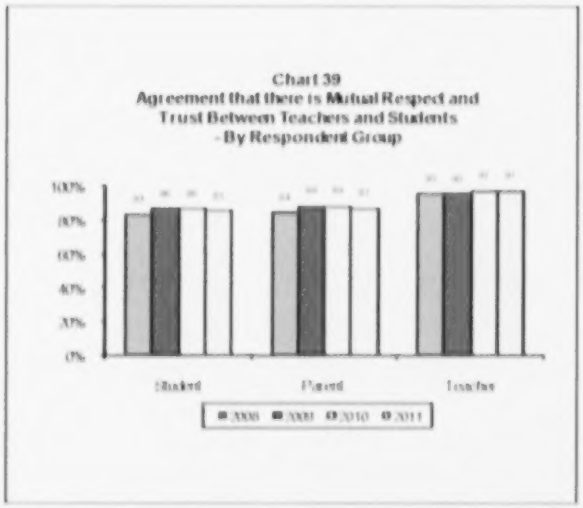
RCO OUTCOME D.2:

A positive teacher-student relationship exists.

Measure D.2: *The percentage of parent, student and teacher agreement that there is mutual respect and trust between teachers and students.*

Overall Results: Overall, 89% of students, parents and teachers agreed that there is mutual respect and trust between teachers and students. Respondents' agreement level is similar to previous results *(see Chart 38).*





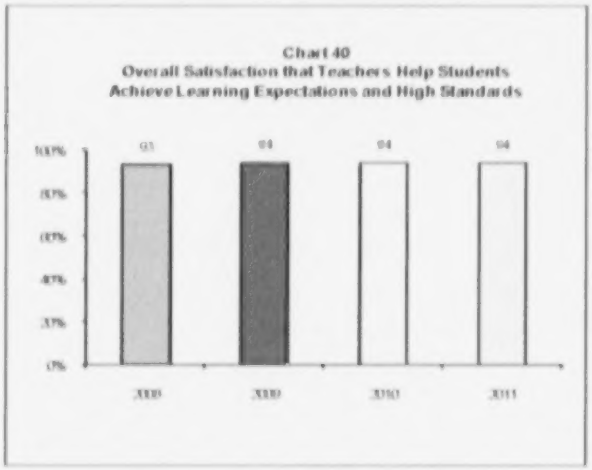
Almost all teachers (97%) agreed that there is mutual respect and trust between teachers and students. However, relatively fewer parents (87%) and students (85%) agreed that there is mutual respect and trust between teachers and students. Respondents' agreement levels are similar to previous results *(see Chart 39).*

RCO OUTCOME D.3:

Effective teaching and learning practices are fostered and valued.

Measure D.3.2: *Percentage of teacher, principal, parent, student, board, and superintendent satisfaction that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards.*

Overall Results: Overall, 94% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards. Respondents' overall satisfaction level is consistent with previous results *(see Chart 40).*



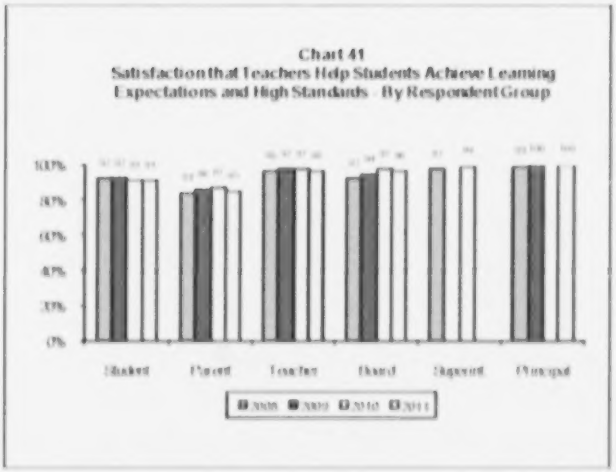


Chart 41
Satisfaction that Teachers Help Students Achieve Learning Expectations and High Standards - By Respondent Group

Virtually, all principals (100%) agreed that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards. Similarly, a large majority of teachers (96%), school board trustees (96%), students (91%), and parents (85%) agreed that teachers help students achieve learning expectations and high standards. Respondents' satisfaction levels are consistent with previous results *(see Chart 41).*

RCO OUTCOME D.4:

High-quality, accessible teacher education programs and stringent teacher certification requirements exist.

Measure D.4.1: *Percentage of teacher, principal, board, superintendent and principal agreement that new Alberta B.Eds are well prepared to meet their responsibilities as teachers.*

Overall Results: Overall, 74% of teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that recent Bachelor of Education graduates are well prepared to meet their responsibilities as teachers. Respondents' overall agreement level is consistent with previous results (see *Chart 42*).

Chart 42
Overall Agreement that New Alberta B.Eds are Well Prepared to Meet Their Responsibilities as Teachers

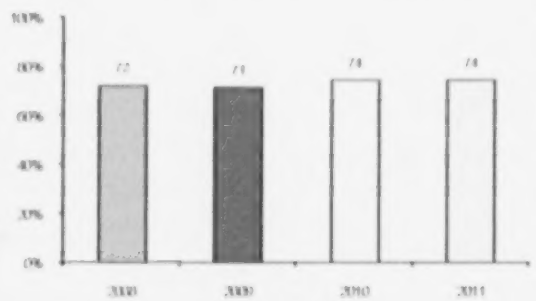
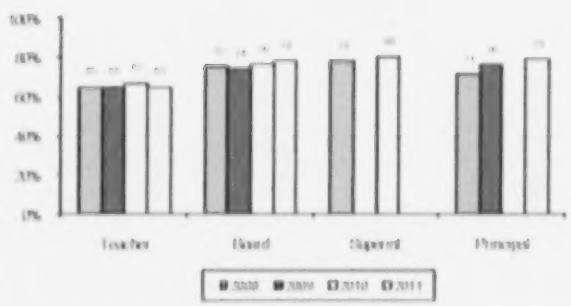


Chart 43
Agreement that New Alberta B.Eds are Well Prepared to Meet Their Responsibilities as Teachers - By Respondent Group



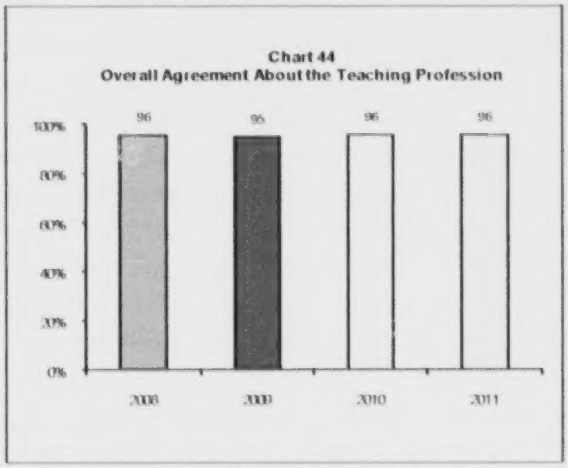
In general, over 75% of principals and school board trustees agreed that recent Bachelor of Education graduates are well prepared to meet their responsibilities as teachers. However, relatively fewer teachers (65%) agreed with this statement. Respondents' agreement levels have been consistent with previous results *(see Chart 43)*.

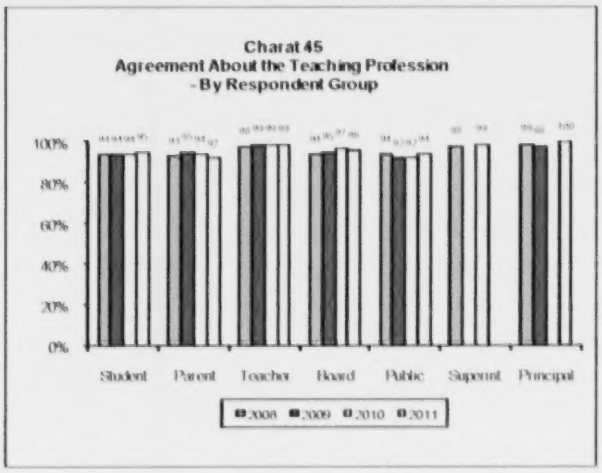
RCO OUTCOME D.5:

Teaching is recognized as a profession and teachers exercise their judgment and authority consistent with their professional rights and responsibilities.

Measure D.5: *Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student, board, superintendent and principal agreement that teaching is a profession requiring its members to: a) have specialized knowledge and skills, b) apply their specialized knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment, c) provide a service to society.*

Overall Results: Overall, 96% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public agreed that teachers have specialized knowledge and skills, apply knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment and that they provide a very valuable service to society. Respondents' overall agreement level is consistent with previous results *(see Chart 44).*





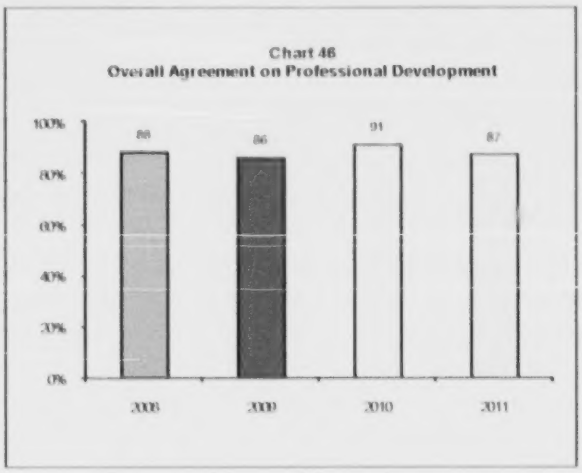
Virtually all principals (100%), and the vast majority (92% to 99%) of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and the public agreed that teachers are knowledgeable about the subjects they teach, have specialized knowledge and skills, apply their knowledge and skills using reasoned judgment and that they provide a very valuable service to society. Respondents' agreement levels are consistent with previous results *(see Chart 45).*

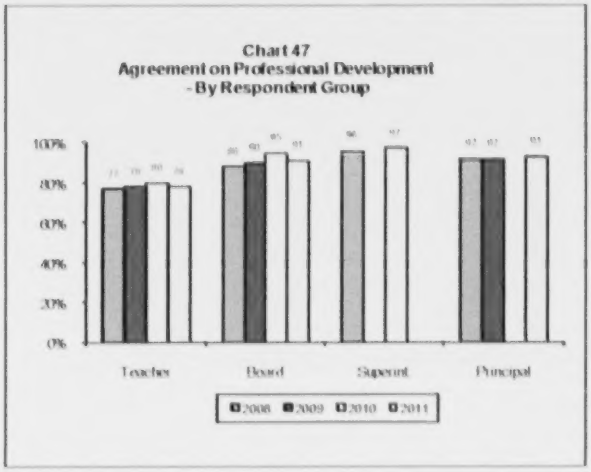
RCO OUTCOME D.6:

Ongoing professional growth is fostered through systematic professional development.

Measure D.6: *Percentage of teachers, boards, superintendents and principals reporting that in the past 3-5 years the professional development and in-servicing received from the school authority has been focused, systematic and contributed significantly to their ongoing professional growth.*

Overall Results: Overall, 87% of teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that the professional development and in-servicing received by teachers from the school authority have been focused, systematic and contributed significantly to their ongoing professional growth. Respondents' overall agreement level is consistent with previous results (*see Chart 46*).





In general, more principals (93%) and school board trustees (91%) than teachers (78%) agreed that in-services received by teachers from the school authority have addressed teachers' professional development needs and contributed to ongoing professional development. Respondents' agreement levels are consistent with previous results (*see Chart 47*).

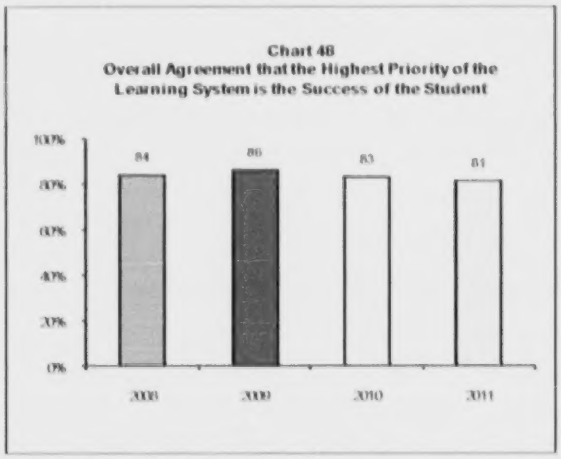
Leadership and Governance

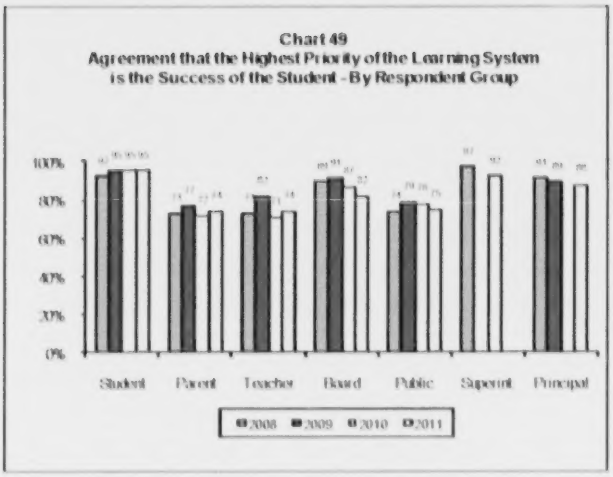
RCO OUTCOME E.1:

The highest priority of the learning system is the success of each student.

Measure E.1.1: *Percentage of teacher, parent, public, student, board, superintendent and principal agreement that the highest priority of the learning system is the success of the student.*

Overall Results: Overall, 81% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public agreed that the highest priority of the education system is the success of the student. Respondents' overall agreement level is similar to previous results *(see Chart 48)*.





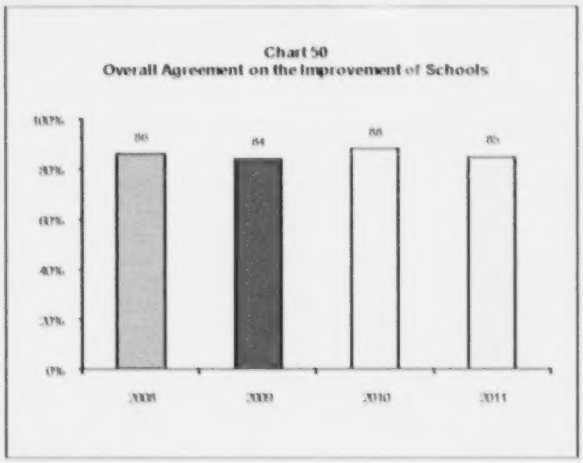
A higher proportion of students (95%), principals (88%) and school board trustees (82%) agreed that the highest priority of the Alberta's education system is the success of the student. However, a relatively smaller proportion of the public (75%), parents (74%) and teachers (74%) agreed with this statement. Teachers' agreement level has decreased by 8% compared to the 2009 survey result *(see Chart 49)*.

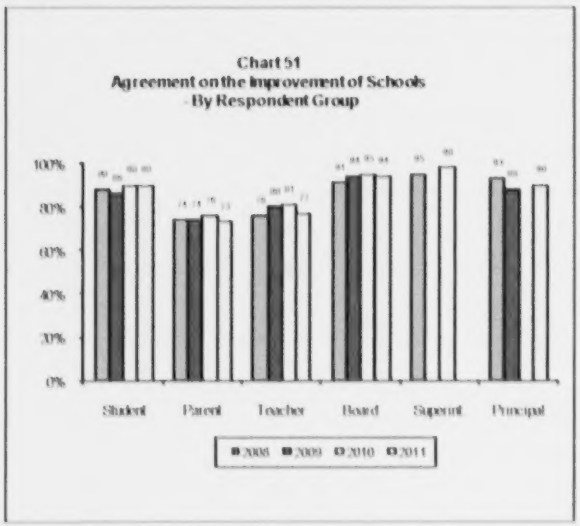
RCO OUTCOME E.2:

The learning system is characterized by ongoing school improvement.

Measure E.2.1: *Percentage of teacher, parents, boards, superintendents and principals indicating that their school and school(s) in their jurisdictions have improved, stayed the same, or become worse in the last three years.*

Overall Results: Overall, 85% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals reported that their school and school(s) in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same in the past three years. The overall result for this measure is consistent with previous results *(see Chart 50)*.

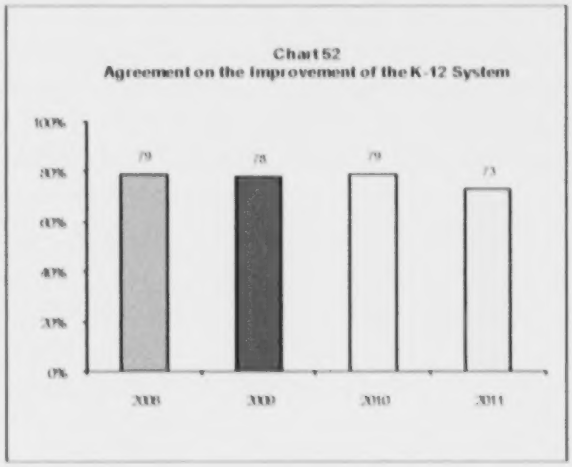


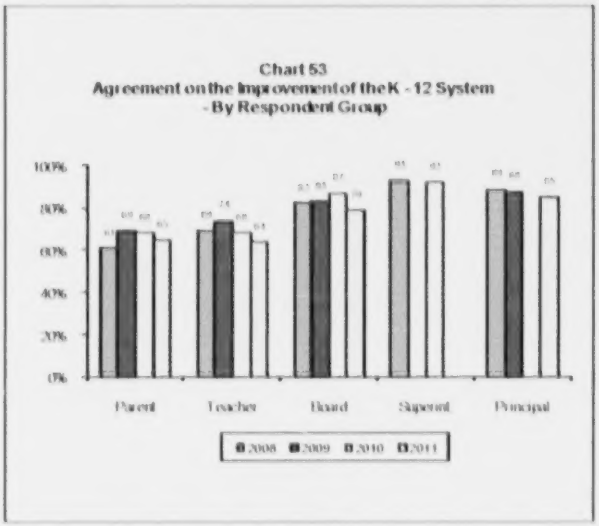


The vast majority of school board trustees (94%), students (90%) and principals (90%) agreed that their school and school(s) in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same in the past three years. However, relatively fewer teachers (77%) and parents (73%) agreed with this statement. Respondents' agreement levels are consistent with previous results. Note that since 2010 in the parent survey, question on this measure was asked only to parents of students in Grades 3-12 *(see Chart 51)*.

Measure E.2.2: *Percentage of teachers, parents, boards, superintendents and principals indicating that the Alberta learning system has improved, stayed the same, or become worse in the last three years.*

Overall Results: Overall, 73% of parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals reported that Alberta's K–12 education system has improved or stayed the same in the past three years. The overall result for this measure is consistent with previous results (see *Chart 52*).





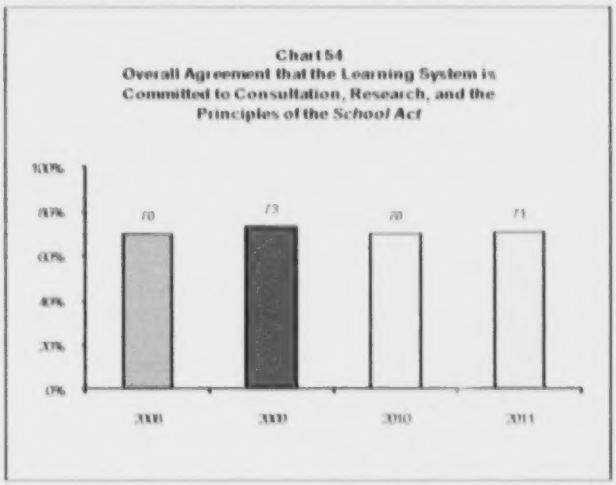
A high proportion of principals (85%) and school board trustees (79%) agreed that the Alberta K–12 education system has improved or stayed the same in the past three years. However, relatively fewer parents (65%) and teachers (64%) agreed with this statement. Teachers' agreement level has decreased by 10% compared to the 2009 result. Note that since 2010 in the parent survey, question on this measure was asked only to parents of students in Grades 3–12 (*see Chart 53*).

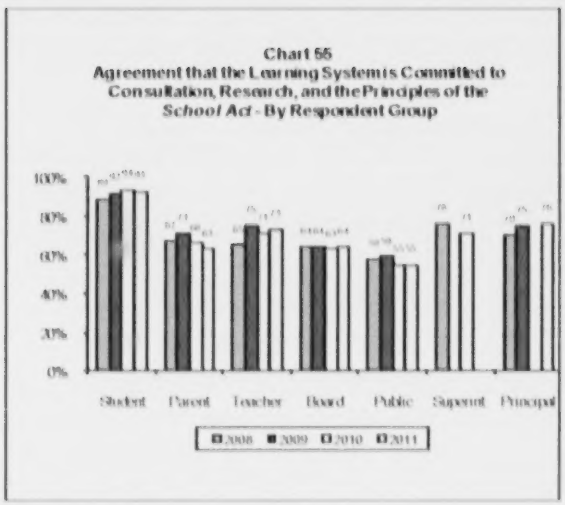
RCO OUTCOME E.3:

Consultation, research and commitment to principles guide policy decisions in the learning system.

Measure E.3: *The percentage of teacher, parent, public, student, board, superintendent and principal agreement that the learning system is committed to consultation, research and principles of the School Act.*

Overall Results: Overall, 71% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public agreed that the learning system is committed to consultation, research, and the principles of the School Act. Respondents' overall agreement level is similar to previous results (*see Chart 54*).





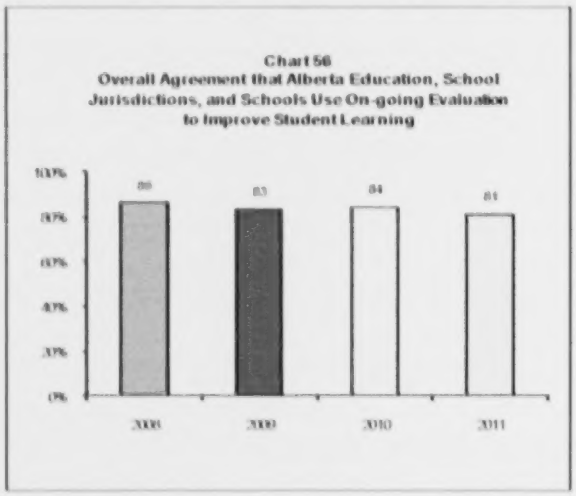
In general, 93% of students agreed that the education system is committed to consultation, research and the principles of the *School Act*. However, a relatively smaller proportion of principals (76%), teachers (73%), school board trustees (64%), parents (63%), and the public (55%) agreed with this statement. Parents' agreement has decreased by 8% compared to the 2009 result, and teachers' agreement has increased by 8% compared to the 2008 result (*see Chart 55*).

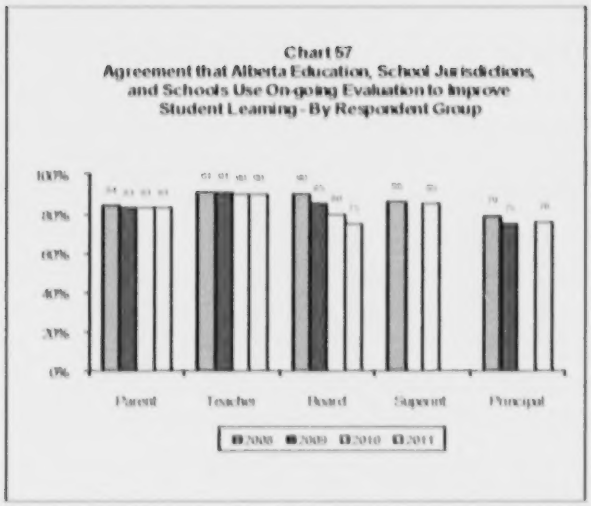
RCO OUTCOME E.4:

Student learning is supported by evaluation practices that provide information about important outcomes.

Measure E.4: *The percentage of teacher, parent, student, stakeholder, board, superintendent and principal agreement that Alberta Education, school jurisdictions and schools use the results of student, teacher, program, school and school system evaluation to improve student learning.*

Overall Results: Overall, 81% of parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals agreed that the Alberta Education/school jurisdictions/schools use ongoing evaluation to improve student learning. The overall agreement level is similar to previous results *(see Chart 56)*





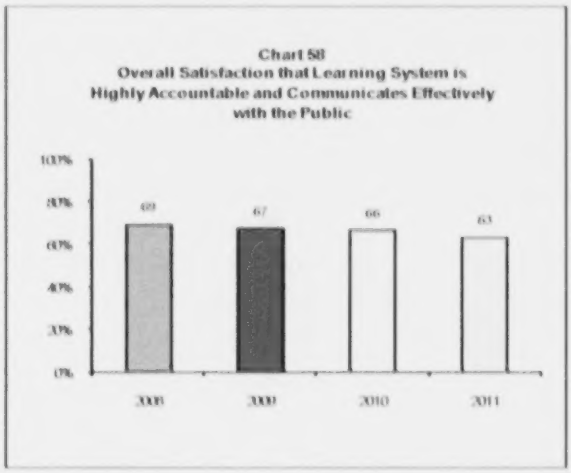
In general, a high proportion of teachers (90%), parents (83%), principals (76%), and school board trustees (75%) agreed that Alberta Education/school jurisdictions/ schools use ongoing evaluation to improve student learning. School board trustee agreement has decreased by 15% compared to the 2008 result *(see Chart 57)*.

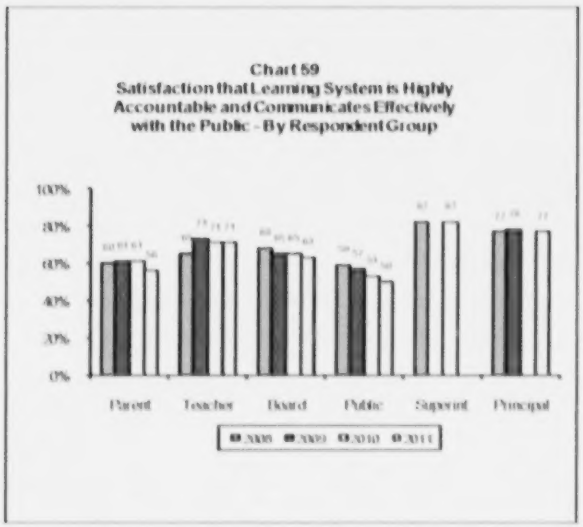
RCO OUTCOME E.7:

All elements of the learning system are highly accountable and communicate effectively with the public.

Measure E.7: *Percentage of teacher, parent, public, board, superintendent and principal satisfaction that the learning system (government, jurisdictions, schools) is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public.*

Overall Results: Overall, 63% of parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals and the public were satisfied that the learning system is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public. The overall satisfaction level is similar to previous results *(see Chart 58)*.





In general, 77% of principals were satisfied that the learning system is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public. However, relatively fewer teachers (71%), school board trustees (63%), parents (56%), and the public (50%) were satisfied that the learning system is highly accountable and communicates effectively with the public. The public satisfaction level has decreased by 9% compared to the 2008 survey result *(see Chart 59)*.

RCO OUTCOME E.9:

Effective and facilitative leadership supports teaching and learning.

Measure E.9: *Percentage of parent, public, student, staff (teacher), board, superintendent and principal satisfaction that the leadership at the school, school board and provincial level effectively supports and facilitates teaching and learning.*

Overall Results: Overall, 62% of parents, teachers, school board trustees, principals, and the public were satisfied that the leadership at the school, school board and provincial levels effectively supports and facilitates teaching and learning. The overall satisfaction level has decreased by 9% compared to the 2009 result *(see Chart 60).*

Chart 60
Overall Satisfaction that the Leadership at the School, School Board, and Provincial Levels Effectively Supports and Facilitates Teaching and Learning

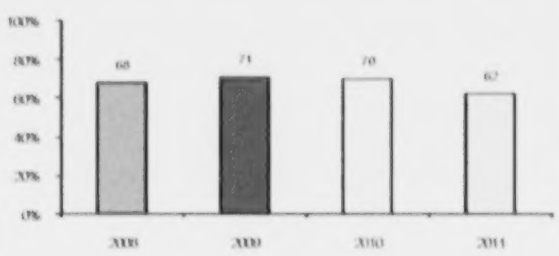
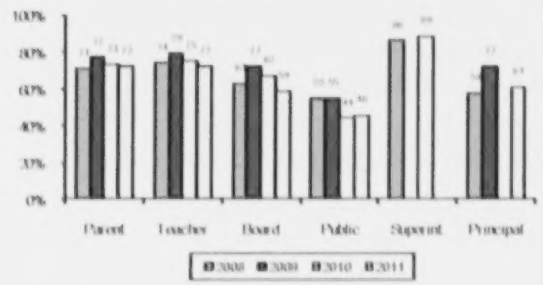


Chart 61
Satisfaction that the Leadership at the School, School Board and Provincial Levels Effectively Supports and Facilitates Teaching and Learning - By Respondent Group



In general, over 70% of teachers and parents were satisfied that the leadership at school, jurisdiction and provincial levels supports and facilitates teaching and learning. Relatively smaller proportion of principals (61%), school board trustees (59%) and the public (46%) were satisfied with the provincial leadership. Board satisfaction has decreased by 13% compared to the 2009 result. Similarly, public satisfaction has decreased by 9% compared to previous results from 2008 and 2009 *(see Chart 61).*

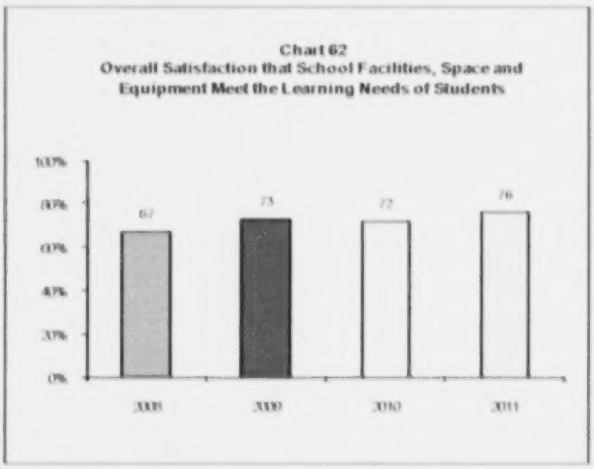
Facilities

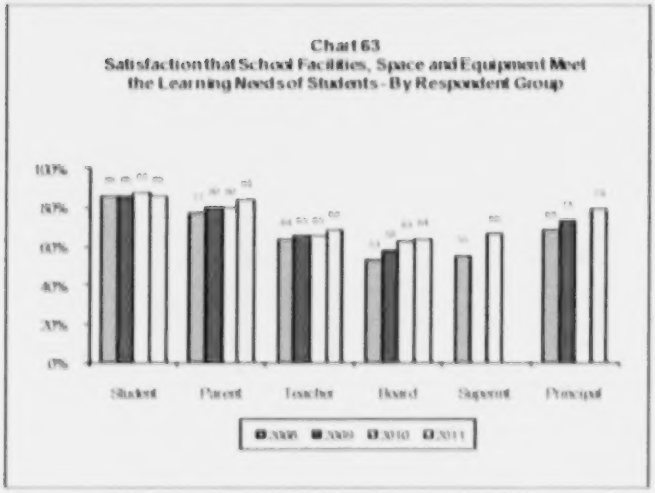
RCO OUTCOME F.1.1:

Facilities meet the learning needs of students and the program delivery needs of staff.

Measure F1.1: *Percentage of parent, student, staff (teacher), board, superintendent and principal satisfaction that the facility, space and equipment meet the learning needs of students.*

Overall Results: Overall, 76% of students, parents, teachers, school board trustees, and principals were satisfied that school facilities, space and equipment meet the learning needs of students. Respondents' overall satisfaction level has increased by 9% compared to the 2008 result. Please note that in 2008 both superintendent and principal surveys were administered and results from both surveys were included in the measure *(see Chart 62)*.

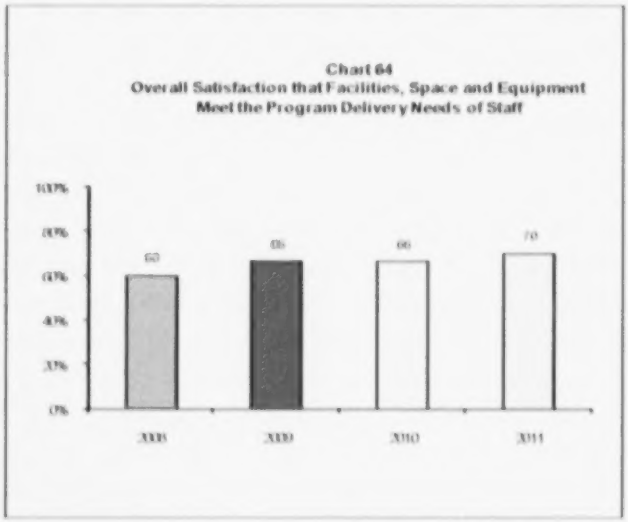


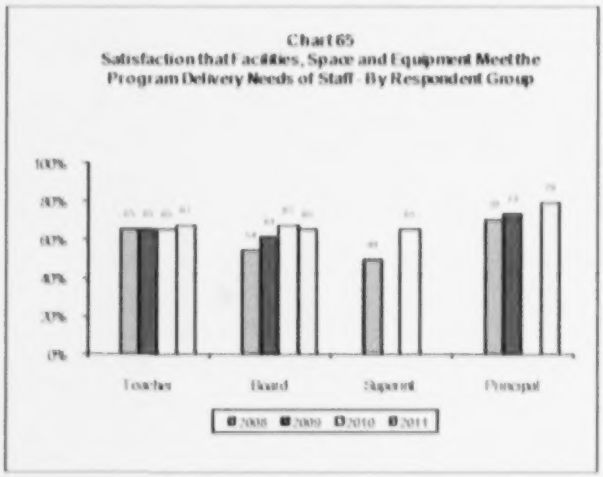


In general, a high proportion of students (86%), parents (84%) and principals (79%) were satisfied that school facilities, space and equipment meet the learning needs of students. However, relatively fewer teachers (68%) and school board trustees (64%) were satisfied that student learning needs are being met. Board and principal satisfaction levels have increased by 11% compared to the 2008 results *(see Chart 63)*.

Measure F1.2: *Percentage of parent, student, staff (teacher), board, superintendent and principal satisfaction that the facility, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff.*

Overall Results: Overall, 70% of teachers, school board trustees and principals were satisfied that school facilities, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff. Respondents' overall satisfaction level has increased by 10% compared to the 2008 result. Please note that in 2008 both superintendent and principal surveys were administered and results from both surveys were included in the measure *(see Chart 64)*.





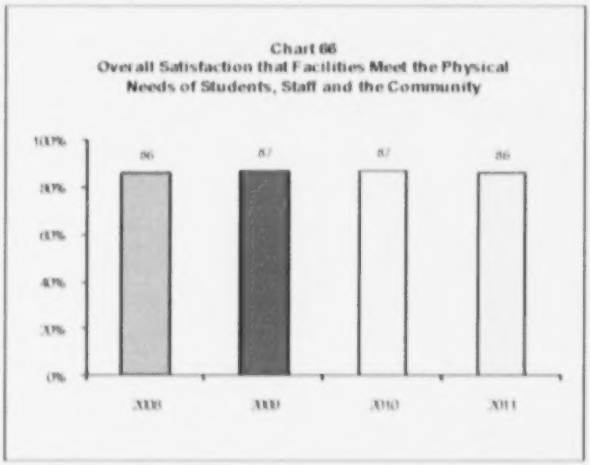
In general, about three-fourths of principals (79%) and about two-thirds of teachers (67%) and school board trustees (65%) were satisfied that facilities, space and equipment meet the program delivery needs of staff. Satisfaction levels of school board trustees and principals have increased (11% and 9%, respectively) compared to 2008 results *(see Chart 65)*.

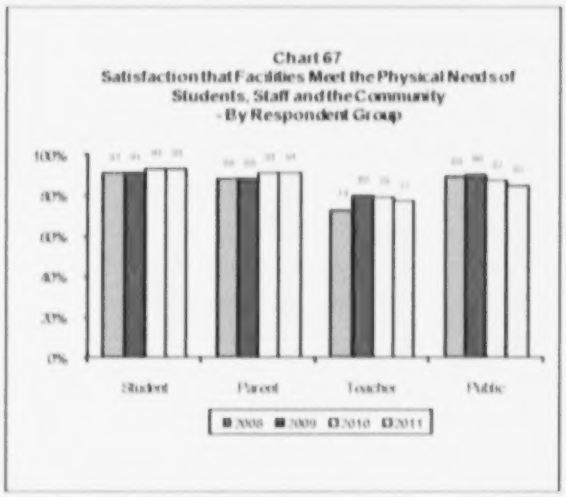
RCO OUTCOME F.2:

Facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff and the community.

Measure F2.2: *Percentage of students, staff (teacher) and community satisfaction that facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff and the community.*

Overall Results: Overall, 86% of students, parents, teachers, and the public were satisfied that school facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff and the community. Respondents' overall satisfaction level is similar to previous results *(see Chart 66).*





A large majority of students (93%), parents (91%) and the public (85%) were satisfied that school facilities meet the physical needs of students, staff, and the community. However, relatively fewer teachers (77%) were satisfied that facilities meet their physical needs. Respondents' satisfaction levels are similar to previous results *(see Chart 67).*

Appendix-1

Review Committee on Outcomes: Survey Results

Background

In the spring of 2000, Alberta Education (previously Alberta Learning) appointed the Review Committee on Outcomes (RCO) to consult with Albertans to find out what they expected from the K–12 education system and how these expectations are being met. The committee consisted of stakeholder representatives from the Alberta Home and School Councils' Association, Alberta School Boards' Association, College of Alberta School Superintendents, Association of School Board Officials of Alberta, Alberta Teachers' Association, Public Colleges and Technical Institutions of Alberta, Universities Coordinating Council, and Chamber of Commerce, as well as a parent and a member at large.

This committee worked for more than a year to develop outcomes for the education system by gathering public input on key results for a number of areas such as student learning, quality teaching, leadership and governance. In its second year, the committee and its performance measurement sub-committee focused their attention on developing a set of indicators and measures to help determine whether outcomes are being achieved.

Overall, more than 1400 Albertans provided feedback on both the outcomes and measures during the consultation process. A total of 39 outcomes were established, which together with 80 measures form a framework that helps to establish educational policies and priorities at the system, jurisdictional and school levels. Mostly, these measures are based on views of parents, teachers, students, boards and employers as well as the public. These measures will provide a basis for monitoring system performance and bringing about continuous improvement over time.

This report presents the main findings of the 2011 Satisfaction with Education in Alberta Surveys (which are telephone surveys of the public, teachers, school board trustees, principals, senior high school students and parents of kindergarten to Grade 12 students) that relate to 28 RCO outcomes and 34 survey measures for the kindergarten to Grade 12 education system. These satisfaction surveys are conducted annually by Alberta Education to obtain perceptions on how the education system is performing in meeting learners' and society's needs and expectations. 2004 was the first year that questions based on the RCO measures were included in the surveys. The public satisfaction surveys were expanded to include a Superintendent Survey in 2007 and a Principal Survey in 2008. Since 2009, administration of these two surveys is done in alternate years with the Principal Survey being administered in 2011. Changes in the scope of some measures were also made with the addition of new questions in 2008 and 2009.

The analysis of the results in this report is based on a rolled-up summary percentage for all questions in the measure for each respondent group. For each measure, overall results are

calculated based on average of rolled-up summary percentages for the related respondent groups. A historical perspective of results is provided, where possible, through comparison of 2011 results with those obtained in 2008, 2009 and 2010.

In the surveys, some respondent groups were excluded from certain questions, (although they were initially included as respondents when the RCO measures were developed), because those questions were considered to require a significant amount of background knowledge not normally available to those groups.

The 2011 satisfaction surveys were conducted from mid January to early March 2011.

Appendix-2

Sample Sizes and Confidence Intervals in the Satisfaction with Education in Alberta Surveys

Alberta Education annually commissions telephone satisfaction surveys of random samples of the Alberta public, teachers, school board trustees, superintendents, principals, senior high school students and parents of ECS – Grade 12 students. Administration of the superintendent survey and principal survey is done in alternate years with the principal survey being administered in 2011. The purpose of these surveys is to obtain perceptions of how the Education system is performing in meeting learners' and society's needs and expectations. Professional survey research firms are contracted to conduct the surveys for Alberta Education, using trained interviewers and a Computer-Assisted Telephone Interviewing (CATI) system. Survey results are compiled by the survey research firm and provided to Alberta Education.

The following table provides sampling information about the Satisfaction with the Education in Alberta surveys (public, teachers, school board trustees, superintendents, principals, senior high school students and parents of ECG – Grade 12 students) conducted by Alberta Education. The information includes the respondent groups surveyed, corresponding sample sizes and the confidence intervals for results from each survey. Results are considered accurate within the confidence interval 19 times out of 20 (i.e., at a confidence level of 95%). Please note that results for some of the questions included in the 2009, 2010 and 2011 surveys will have wider confidence intervals because of sample sizes smaller than those in the table below. Sampling variation can also account for observed differences in results from year to year.

Survey	Sample/Confidence Interval	2008	2009	2010	2011
Public	Sample	3,000	810	800	800
	Confidence interval	±1.8%	±3.4%	±3.5%	±3.5%
Parents of ECS to Grade 12 students	Sample	801	802	800	801
	Confidence interval	±3.5%	±3.5%	±3.5%	±3.5%
Senior high school students	Sample	802	801	800	800
	Confidence interval	±3.5%	±3.5%	±3.5%	±3.5%
Teachers	Sample	801	809	800	800
	Confidence Interval	±3.5%	±3.5%	±3.5%	±3.5%
School board trustees*	Sample	306	350	335	345
	Confidence Interval	±3.8%	±3.2%	±3.3%	±3.2%
Superintendents*	Sample	58	na	65	na
	Confidence Interval	±6.0%	na	±4.5%	na
Principals*	Sample	621	400	na	400
	Confidence Interval	±3.2%	±4.3%	na	±4.2%

*Accuracy for these samples takes into account the sample population

Unless otherwise noted, the survey instruments for these satisfaction surveys use four-point response scales ("Very Satisfied/Satisfied/Dissatisfied/Very Dissatisfied" or "Strongly Agree/Agree/Disagree/Strongly Disagree"), depending on the question. Although not asked, "Don't Know" responses and refusals are recorded as well. Results presented are the combined percentages of respondents who were "very satisfied/satisfied" or who "strongly agreed/agreed". The survey instruments and results are available online at: http://www.Education.gov.ab.ca/pubstats/research.asp.